CONTENT ANALYSIS OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE LISTED UNDER DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS (DOAJ) (2003- 2017)

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BY

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1. INTRODUCTION

An open access publication is a publication that provides immediately free online access to all users worldwide. There are many web sites (directories) which list Open AccessJournal collection & individual journals. (1)

A "Journal" is a scholarly periodical aimed at specialists & researches. Articles are generally written by experts in the subject, using more technical language. They contain, original research, conclusions based on data, footnotes or endnotes and often an abstract or bibliography.(2)

Open access journals are scholarly journals that are available online to the reader "without financial,legal,or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. (3)

DOAJ

DOAJ means Directory of Open Access Journal.The directory of open access journals is a website that lists open access journals and is maintained by infrastructure service for open access. The project defines open access journal as a scientific and scholarly journals that meet high quality standards by exercising peer review or editorial quality control & "use a funding model that does not charge readers or their institutions for access."

The directory of Open Access Journals was launched in 2003 at Lund University,Sweden, with 300 open access journal & today contains ca.1000 Open Access Journals covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social science & humanities. DOAJ is a membership organization & membership is available in 3 Main categories publisher, ordinary member & sponsor.

DOAJ is a community curated online directory that indexes and provides access to high quality open access, peer-reviewed journals. DOAJ is independent. All DOAJ services are free of charge including being indexed in DOAJ, All data is freely available.

The aim of the DOAJ is to increase the visibility & ease of use of open access scientific & scholarly journals thereby promoting their increased usage & impact. The DOAJ aims to cover all Open Access scientific &scholarly journals that use a quality control system to guarantee the content. In short the DOAJ aims to be the one-stop shop for users of Open Access Journals.(4)

Political science,also called government is a social science,which deals with system of governance & the analysis of political activities, political thought & political behavior.It deals extensively with the theory & practice of politics which is commonly thought of as determining the distribution of power & resources.

The importance of political science lies in the fact that all of us live within political systems & we are affected by the changes in the global political economy. With the advent of globalization, there has been a concomitant rise in the interest taken by the people of the world in understanding the political systems of other countries. Hence political scientists become valued & important as they provide the lens through which we can understand the global political economy.

The Journals of political sciences& public affairs is an open access journal. It aims to serve as a complete & reliable source of information on the discoveries & current developments in the mode of original articles, review articles, case reports etc. in all areas of the field & making them freely available through online without & restrictions or any other subscriptions to researchers worldwide.(5)

The present study is based on the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ),data base of fully Open Access peer-reviewed scholarly journals withspecial reference to Political Science Journals.The Prime objective of the study is exploring quantitative inclusion of political science Journal from several perspectives

Content Analysis

Meaning, History, Definition

Content Analysis is a research tool focused on the actual content and internal features of media. It is used to determine the presence of certain words, concepts, themes, phrases, characters, or sentences within texts or sets of texts and to quantify this presence in an objective manner.

The term ‘Content Analysis’is around 80 year’s old. Content analysis was already an often utilized research method by the 1940’s. The mid-1950’s researchers were already starting to consider the need for more sophisticated methods of analysis.(6)

According to Kaplan, “Content analysis attempts to characterize the meaning in a given body to discourse in a systematic & quantitative fashion”. (7)

“Content Analysis is a research technique, for making inferences by systematically and objectively indentify specify character within result”.(8)

Many students are doing research in the subject of Political Science at various universities & research centers. But the journals available on DOAJ are not known to the students,so the intention to bring the matter to the notice ofvarious researchers thatcan use this journal for their research.Hence effectively help the research to the topic.

2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

There are 105 Political Science Journal available on DOAJ & 29544 articleas on today. The present study will discover the coverage of Political Science Journals in DOAJ from various parameters.

DOAJ is a website that publishes journals on different subjects. In this research, a current state of the journal of political science published on the web site of DOAJ is to be studied from different parameters. The participation of Indian researchers seems to be very less as compare to others.

Political science is a very vast subject. There are many universities that provide graduate & higher-level studies in political science. Hence, many researchers are workingon this subject, so that DOAJ journals can be useful in their research.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the year wise addition of Political Science Journals.
2. To study the subject wise distribution of the publications.
3. To study the institution wise publications.
4. To study the geographical distribution of the publications.
5. To study the language wise distribution of Political Science Journals.

4. HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

1. The researchers & publishers contribute papers in DOAJ.

2. Journals on political science covered in DOAJ are widely used by academics.

3. Journals in political science are very less in DOAJ as compare to other subjects.

4. DOAJ publishes international level papers on political science subject.

5. Indian contribution is very less.

5. SCOPE & LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study is limited tothe period of 15 years i.e. (2003-2017) which includes 105 Political Science Journals in DOAJ from 2003 to till date. 29544 articles from the 105 Journals have been taken for the study.

6. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodology applied in the present study is bibliometric, which will be used to study the articles published in the DOAJ during the period 2003-2017.

7.RESEARCH DESIGN

The study is divided into five different chapters as follows.

1) Introduction

2) Review of literature

3) Research Methodology

4) Data Analysis

5) Conclusions& Suggestions

6) Bibliography, Appendices

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